

**CLAIMS**

1. Starter for an internal combustion engine comprising  
5 an electric motor (11) having a cylindrical housing (15)  
supporting the stator (12) and a rotor (13) coupled to an  
output shaft (43) for the rotational driving of a starter  
head (30) with the interposing of an epicyclic gearbox  
(45), the said gearbox comprising:

10 - a ring gear (46) having an internally toothed  
cylindrical annular skirt (61), and a radial flange (62)  
provided with a hole (63) for coaxial passage of the  
output shaft (43),

15 - and means of axial centring of the said ring gear (46)  
in the support (16) of the starter,

characterised in that the ring gear (46) of the gearbox  
20 (45) has a first abutment face (70) situated in the same  
plane as the connection interface between the support  
(16) and the housing (15).

2. Starter according to claim 1, characterised in that  
25 the connection interface is delimited between a second  
abutment face (71) of the support (16) in axial abutment  
against a third abutment face (72) of the housing (15).

3. Starter according to claim 2, characterised in that  
30 the ring gear (46) comprises a collar (73) equipped with  
the first abutment face (70) coming into contact with the  
support (16).

4. Starter according to claim 3, characterised in that the collar (73) projects from the skirt (61) of the ring gear (46) in order to provide the centring of the housing (15) and ring gear (46) on the support (16).

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5. Starter according to claim 3, characterised in that the ring gear (46) of the gearbox (45) is locked in axial translation by the said collar (73) and by a stop protrusion (74) on the housing (15).

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6. Starter according to claim 3, characterised in that the centring collar (73) is moulded directly with the ring gear (46).

15 7. Starter according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises a starter head (30) provided with a driver (51), a control lever (41) in engagement with the driver (51) and a support (16) receiving a control lever (41), and in that the ring gear (46) of the gearbox (45)  
20 comprises an extension conformed so as to fulfil a function of articulation of the control lever.

8. Starter according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises a starter head (30) provided with a driver  
25 (51), a control lever (41) in engagement with the driver (51) and a support (16) receiving a control lever (41), and in that the ring gear (46) of the gearbox (45) comprises an extension conformed as a male element engaged in a cavity (69) in the support (16) receiving a  
30 control lever (41).